48193 P 77396

FOR THE YEAR 1812.

# REPORT

OF THE

## *SICK AND DESTITUTE*

## Strangers' Friend Society;

INSTITUTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF

*Visiting and Relieving*

SICK AND DISTRESSED STRANGERS,

AND OTHER POOR,

AT THEIR RESPECTIVE HABITATIONS,

TOGETHER WITH

*An Account of some of the Cases visited in* 1812,

AND A LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

"I was an *hungred*, and ye gave me meat; I was a *stranger*, and ye took me in; *naked*, and ye clothed me; I was *sick*, and ye visited me." MATT. XXV. 35, 36.

GLASGOW:

PRINTED BY R. CHAPMAN, TRONGATE,

*For the Committee of the Strangers' Friend Society.*

1813.

77396

# GENERAL RULES.

1.

That the Members of this Society meet every Tuesday night, in one of the rooms over the Evening Chapel, in John-street, at eight o'clock, when any Benefactor, either by attending personally, or by sending a note in writing, may recommend objects of distress, who will be visited, and their cases taken into consideration.

2.

That proper books be provided, and regular entries made of receipts and disbursements; that those books shall be free of access for the inspection of Subscribers and the Public.

3.

That the Visitors be appointed from time to

time at these meetings, who shall be deemed capable of instructing those they visit in the way of righteousness.

4.

That in order to avoid imposition, no person or persons shall be relieved previous to their being visited; that the Visitors recommend cleanliness.

5.

That the Visitors shall enquire of the neighbours whether the person or family in distress, has any means of subsistence from any other source.

6.

That two Visitors shall go together, and that they shall, each respectively, change his partner weekly.

7.

That the Visitors and others taking an active part in this work, shall be willing to engage in it heartily, faithfully, and gratuitously; that they shall consider the cases to which they are respectively appointed by the Weekly Meeting, as under their immediate care during the week, and to endeavour to

see each casual case on the day first apprized of it, especially if speedy death be apprehended.

8.

That the relief administered, shall be expressly given in the name of the *Sick and Destitute Strangers' Friend Society.*

9.

That no Member of the Methodist Connexion, shall, on any pretence whatever, be relieved by this Society.

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# REPORT

OF THE

*SICK AND DESTITUTE*

# STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY,

FOR 1812.

WERE all the sums which have been given to Public Charities in this city, within the last twelve months, collected together, the aggregate would form a subject of pleasing wonder. In so large a place, and where the population has so abundantly and rapidly increased, the number of wretched and helpless Poor must, of necessity, be very great, and amongst the fit objects of benevolence, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to find one, whose claims to commiseration and assistance, are equal to those of the SICK AND DESTITUTE STRANGER. At a distance from

the place of his nativity, his early associates, and the circle of his affectionate though poor relatives—at the very period when he is seeking employment, by which he expects to be able to provide for himself and family—he is seized by affliction, not only unprovided with the comforts of life, but entirely destitute of its necessaries; or perhaps the hand of Death has removed the head and support of the family, from this valley of tears, and left the Widow and her helpless Children in complete penury, in a place far distant from those to whom she was naturally endeared, and the remembrance of whose past attentions only now serves to afflict her throbbing heart.

Where is the true Christian whose heart does not melt at the idea of such wretchedness, and who does not feel willing, and even anxious, to pour the balm of consolation into bosoms where complicated distress has inflicted such deep incisions? Let no one suppose that these are only *imaginary* scenes of woe; many equally, if not more, distressing, frequently come under the notice of the Strangers' Friend Society.

There are, no doubt, many among the affluent, who would rejoice to afford relief to the objects above described, did it not require a greater expence of time and labour, than they are able to bestow, to discriminate the genuine sufferer, from the shameless and impudent imposter; such persons may now learn, (if they have not been informed before,) that the Visitors of this Society, voluntarily and disinterestedly offer to become their almoners; and besides visiting the needy

Stranger, in his humble and uncomfortable abode, and administering aid to his present distress, they will not fail to point him to that *Friend of Strangers*, "who though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be rich;" and to implore the Father of mercies to grant him a sanctified use of his affliction, and at last a happy issue from all his troubles.

This Institution has existed in Glasgow, since the year 1803, during which time 3218 cases have been relieved; and of these 459 within the last year.

In publishing their Ninth Report, the Committee cannot help expressing the feelings of pleasure and gratitude, which have been excited this year by the unprecedented increase of their funds. As the pressing calls for help from afflicted and needy Strangers are still numerous, they trust that the same spirit of munificence will exert and display itself, especially as there is the utmost certainty, that the Glorious Redeemer and Judge will acknowledge and reward, as done unto himself, those acts of beneficence which have been performed, from Gospel motives, for the comfort of the subjects of such accumulated sorrow.

A few Cases, selected from the multitude which were relieved by this Society during the last year, will plead more powerfully in its behalf, than any other arguments.

# *CASES.*

## Case I.

John and Janet Mauney, (natives of Ireland) Tarbet's Back Land, Old Wynd, were found by the Visitors of the Strangers' Friend Society, in the most extreme distress. Old age, and the infirmities usually attending it, had for some time prevented them from providing for their own necessities. When they were first visited, they were destitute of food, and the only bedding which they possessed was a small quantity of straw, and their only covering part of an old mat, or sail-cloth. For several weeks they were continued upon the books of the Society. At length the old man was released by the hand of death, from the afflictions under which he laboured, having previous to his departure, expressed his gratitude to God, and under him, to those who had so seasonably alleviated their complicated distress.

## Case II.

In another part of the same wretched habitation, in which the above mentioned persons resided, the

Visitors discovered another object of genuine distress. A poor woman, named LETTY M'MACHAN, had been deserted by her husband, in an advanced state of pregnancy. The day before the Visitors arrived she was delivered of a dead child after five day's labour, and had tasted nothing, except cold water, till she was relieved by them. She was continued upon the funds till she recovered.

## CASE III.

APPLICATION was made to the Strangers' Friend Society, to visit MARY M'ALLUM, residing in Whisky Close, Main-street, Calton, who, together with her family, were represented as being in the greatest distress. When the Visitor arrived, he found this poor woman, extremely ill, lying upon a heap of shavings in a corner of the room, one infant at her breast, and four other children, in the same room. The children were crying for food, but, alas! the poor afflicted mother was unable to comply with their desires, and could only mingle her tears with theirs. Language cannot describe the gratitude of this poor woman, when she received the relief which the Visitors afforded. After having been continued upon the books for several weeks, she recovered, and was then, together with her family, sent by the Society to Ireland, of which country she was a native.

## Case IV.

N. M'Williams, and five small children, were found by the Visitors of this Society in a miserable garret in the Gorbals, in a state of wretchedness which it is hardly possible to describe. The mother reclining against the wall, apparently near death, while an infant of two months old, lay actually expiring upon a heap of damp straw. Upon enquiry, the Visitors found, that they had not had any sustenance that day, though it was then three o'clock in the afternoon.

## Case V.

James M'Donald, Jeffrie's Close, Goosedub-street, Stockwell, by trade a collier; when first visited by the Society, had been long in a consumption, and it appeared that life was fast drawing to a close. His family consisted of a wife, far advanced in pregnancy, and three small children. When first visited, he was not only in much outward distress, but likewise very ignorant of the truths of the Bible; it is however, hoped that God was pleased to bless the instructions of the Visitors, who from time to time called upon him with the relief afforded by this Society. For six weeks, he was regularly visited and relieved. At the close of that period, the "weary wheels of life stood still," and his immortal spirit, it is hoped, fled to that heavenly country where the in-

habitants, far from a world of grief and sin, triumph in the presence of their Redeemer and their God.

For some days previous to his departure, it was a matter of doubt, whether the wife would first be delivered of her fourth child, or her dying husband become a corpse beside her. But God, who saw fit at that time to take him, raised her up for a few days. Being very destitute, she is continued upon the books of the Society. As the place in which they dwelt was miserable in the extreme, another room in the same neighbourhood was provided for them by the Society, to which they were removed. A few days before this Report was put to press, the poor woman was safely delivered, and is likely to do well.

# LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

## A

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auchinvole, Mr, Gallowgate, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Angus, James, Manufacturer, Argyll-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Anderson, Mr, (per Mrs Routledge,) | 0 | 10 | 0 |

## B

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brown, Hugh, King-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Blackburn, Miss, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Brydson, William, Hutcheson-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Bowman, Mrs, South Hanover-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Bowman, Miss, Cochrane-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Baxter, Isaac, Italian Warehouse, Candleriggs, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Brown, Nicol, Esq. of Land-Finn, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

## C

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carrick, Robert, Esq. Ship Bank, | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Chisholm, William, John-street, | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Craig, Mrs, Clyde-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Cooper, Mrs, George's Square, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Corbet, Mr, Meadow-side, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Crum, Mr, St. Andrew's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Cochrane, James, Brunswick-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Connell, James, St. Vincent-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Chisholm, James, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Cumber, Thomas, Sauchey-hall Road, | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Caddell, William, Candleriggs, | 0 | 10 | 6 |

## D

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dunlop, Matthew, Rev. Havannah-street, | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Douglas, Stewart, Virginia-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dinwiddie, Mrs, Charlotte-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dickson, James, Gallowgate, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Denniston, Robert, Trongate, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dunn, William, George's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dunlop, James, Esq. Barrowfield Bridge, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Downie, John, Melville Place, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Duncan, Andrew, Trongate, | 0 | 5 | 0 |

## F

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Finlay, Kirkman, Esq, the Right Honorable, Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow, M. P. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Fife, James, Esq. Millar-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fleming, Bowman, Brunswick-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Findlay, Robert, Virginia-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Friend, A, | 0 | 5 | 0 |

G

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Graham, Robert, Esq. White-hill, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Guthrie, John, Esq. Carbeth, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Garden, Francis, Esq. George's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Gardner, Moses, Esq. Sauchey-hall Road, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Gordon, John, Esq. Aitkenhead, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Graham, Thomas, Manufacturer, Candleriggs, | 0 | 10 | 6 |

H

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Harley, William, Esq. Willow-Bank, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| H. J. by Mr Brown, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hutchenson, Charles, Esq. George's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Henderson, J. E. Virginia-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Holdsworth, Henry, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Haywood, Joshua, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hall, James, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

J

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jarrett, George, St. Andrew's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

K

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kelly, William, Virginia-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Kelly, James, | 0 | 7 | 6 |

## L

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lesslie & Reid, Ingram-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Lockhart, James, Esq. Saltmarket, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lowrie, William, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lockhart, Rev. Dr, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lumsden, James, Jun. Dunlop-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lancaster, Thomas, Carlton-place, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lawrie, James, Esq. Carlton-place, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

## M

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| More, John, Esq. Royal Bank, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Monteath, Henry, Esq. St. Vincent-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Macintosh, Charles, Esq. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Muir, Mrs Dr, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mitchell, Andrew, Esq. Sauchey-hall Road, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mair, John, Esq, Plantation, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mackenzie, James, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| M'George, Andrew, Esq. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| M'Gavin, Robert, St. Enoch Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| M'Culloch, John, St. Andrew's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| M'Gilp, Ninian, Cochran-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| M'Lay, Ewing, James, Esq. Cathkin, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mirrlees, William, Argyle-street, | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Mitchell & Russell, Gallowgate, | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Mitchell, Mrs, Stockwell-street, | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| M'Laren, Mr, Rev. Tradestown, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| M'Culloch & Davison, St. Andrew's Square, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| M'Donald, John, Melville Place, | 0 | 5 | 0 |

N

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Niven, David, Trongate, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Newbigging, Archibald, Esq. | 1 | 0 | 0 |

O

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|---|---|---|---|
| Owen, Robert, Esq. Rose-bank, | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Oswald, Alexander, Esq. Shield-hall, | 2 | 2 | 0 |

P

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|---|---|---|---|
| Penny, William, Buchanan-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

R

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Robertson, John, Candleriggs, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Reid, John, & Co. King-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Reddie, James, Esq. Gordon-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Reid, James, Esq, Clairmont, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Reid, Andrew, St. Andrew's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

S

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sword, James, Esq. Annfield, | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Smith, Archibald, Esq. Jordan-hill, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Struthers, Robert, Esq. Greenhead, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Swanston, John, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Smith, Stewart, George's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Stewart, Robert, Gallowgate, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Stenhouse, William, Esq. Stirling-road, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stevenson, William, Barrowfield, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Smith, John, Carlton-place, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Struthers, Alexander, Esq. Sandy Ford, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

T

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Thompson, Richard, George's Square, | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Thomson, Robert, Esq. Camp-hill, | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Tennant, John, Esq. Duke-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Tennant, Robert, Esq. George's-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Templeton, Andrew, Esq. Paisley Bank, | 1 | 1 | 0 |

U

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Urie, Matthew, Montrose-street, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Ure, Mrs, | 0 | 5 | 0 |

W

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Watson, Robert, Esq. Banker, | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Walker, Robert, Sauchey-hall Road, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Wright, Thomas, & Co. George's-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Wardlaw, Gilbert, Sauchey-hall Road, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Wilson, William, Candleriggs, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| White, Arthur, Tureen-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Worsley, Thomas, Tureen-street, | 0 | 10 | 6 |

# DONATIONS.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bartholemew, John, St. Andrew's Square, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Burns, Dr John, | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Douglas, George, Cochrane-street, | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Patison, James, St. Andrew's Square, | 0 | 7 | 6 |
| Theatre, part of a Benefit from the, per Mr John Berry, | 3 | 9 | 6 |

William Chisholm, *President.*
Richard Thompson, *Treasurer.*
Hugh Brown, *Secretary.*

## *Treasurer of the Sick and Destitute Strangers' Friend Society.*

| 1812. *Dr.* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| To Balance in hand 1811, - | £26 | 12 | 2 |
| To sundry Subscriptions, - - | 145 | 13 | 0 |
| To Donations, - - - | 2 | 19 | 6 |
| To part of a Benefit from the Theatre per Mr John Berry, - - | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| To Fines collected 1811-12, - - | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| | £179 | 10 | 2 |

| 1812. *Cr.* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| By Weekly Donations, - - | £152 | 1 | 0 |
| By Subscription to the Royal Infirmary, - - - | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| By Arthur Scott delivering Reports and collecting Subscriptions, | 3 | 17 | 0 |
| By Printing Reports, &c. - - | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| By Balance in hand, - - | 16 | 7 | 2 |
| | £179 | 10 | 2 |

*N. B. Since the close of the year the whole of the balance has been expended. The Treasurer is now in advance* £18 10 4.

February 25th, 1813.